OLE BULL'S COLONY.

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Tragic Romance of a Community in the Wilds of Pennsylvania.

When Ole Bull, the great Norwegian | Burns, "the best laid plans o' mice and violinist, during the fall of 1853, fiddled his way into the hearts of great audienwere few of his enraptured hearers who knew that much of the money he thus earned went to keep a colony of his countrymen in the wilds of Pennsylvania, from starving. Today, as a link between those troublous times and the present, there remains on a wooded hilltop in Potter county, Pennsylvania, the tumbied wall of what was once"Ole Bull's castle," while in the country, round about, within a radus of six miles, are a number of low, flat roofed log houses that remain as mute yet eloquent reminders of a philanthropic undertaking, which, though facetiously termed Ole Bull's folly, embrace features and details that make a most pathetic and interesting narrative Though the ruins of Ole's "castle" are now a resting place for chipmunks, and gray squirrles chatter saucily in the trees that the famous violinist planted, there is associated with the place an air of romance and mystery that is most delightful. Built on the crest of a hill in the Kettle Creek valley, near the center of the 12,000 acres that Ole and his countrymen thought they owned (they having paid for them) the "castle" was to have been the lordly home of Mr. Bull, whose dream it was to establish for his countrymen a settle-ment all their own—a colony where thrift would beget prosperity, and prosperity peace.
But, as truthfully said by Robert

men gang aft' a'gley," so fate, with a ruthless hand, cast the hopes af Ole Buil and his colonists into the pit of oes in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other large American cities, there were few of his enraptured hearers who sadness and unrest. It became known to the colonists that the title to their land was worthless; that all the money they had paid out was as if it had been thrown into the fire, and they were left at the very verge of starvation without even a rift of hope in the cloud of despendency. Many of the colonists had put into the property every dollar that they had. Others used money that had been borrowed from friends. When the colonists gotover their first great disappointment and grief there were those among them ready to kindle the fire of resentment against Ole Bull. At his door was placed the blame for the disappointment against on the disappointment against one blame for the disappointment against one blame for the disappointment against the second secon astrous temination of the colonists' roseate dream. They forgot that in the shrewd game of the land owners, in which the title to their 12,000 acres had which the title to their 12,000 acres had been swept away, Ole Bull was by far the heaviest loser. He, like they, was left almost penniless, but they thought only of their own losses and the hardships that the future held in store for them. But Ole Bull, though almost heart-broken over the cruel fate that had overtaken his own fortune and the colony plan which bid so fair to be a blessing to his countrymen, did not despair. It was time when something had to be done, and that quickly. The stores to be done, and that quickly. The stores of the colonists were about exhausted, discontent was manifest upon every hand; winter was coming on, and suc-cor must be had somehow, somewhere. It was then that Ole took up his violin

nearly all the money he made with his fiddle went toward buying provisions and clothing for the Oleona colonists. It is said that when he left the colony on this occasion he walked through the forest to Lock Haven, thirty miles distant, carrying the case containing his precious fiddle under his arm. At Lock Haven to give his first concert; the sec-ond was given at Williamsport, and from each of these places wagons loaded with supplies were sent back to the disheartened colonists in the Kettle Creek valley.

Of those who took part in the settle-ment of Oleona and New Bergen there is but one of the number living in the locality today. This pearson is Mrs. Mary Anderson, widow of Henry Anderson, who was Ole Bull's secretary and manager. Mrs. Anderson I found the living heavy for back in the bills. in a little house for back in the hills, where she now lives with her adopted son. She is past 84 years of age, and the history of her career is quite exciting enough to make most interesting reading.

She was indeed a remarkable woman, for besides being a successful trapper, a wielder of the ax and a tiller of the soil, she distinguished herself as a log driver on Kettle Creek during the early years of lumbering on that stream. Having the strength of two ordinary men this woman, with pike pole and canthook, waded knee-deep in the turbulent stream wresting the stranded togs into the water and breaking jams with an intrepidity seldom displayed by the men. It is no wonder that, after a life of this sort, one finds her today a sufferer with rheumatism and scarcely able to leave the cumbersome arm-chair that was made especially for her chair that was made especially for her use. But her memory is yet quite good, and she told me many interesting things concerning Ole Bull and his colonists. Those of the latter who were unable to leave the country after the downfall of the settlement now lie buried in a little graveyard just below the old Oleons in

the old Oleona inn.

Mrs Anderson told me of the coming of Ole Bull and his countrymen; how boisterously happy they were; how they danced the nights away, to the enchant-ing notes of Ole's fiddle, and how they built eastles in the air during their quiet moments. One night at a merry-making held at the Oleona inn the Noragain, and for the next few months | wegians danced so lustily that the floor

gave way and the dancers were thrown gave way and the dancers were thrown into a promiscuous heap on the floor below. All escaped injury, however, and after drinking to the health of Ole Bull and the success of the colony they adjourned to another department and continued their revelry.

Ole Bull's "castle," though but a two-

story frame structure, was looked upon as a quite extravagant feat in architec-ture. Except for the wayside tavern, Ole's abode was the most pretentious structure in the country roundabout, for the colonists lived in log houses, sometimes as many as five families under one roof. After the building of Mr. Bull's "castle," and the erection of the tavern, the colonists constructed a concert hall, wherein were held at regular intervals, rousing, roystering merry-makings. Mrs. Anderson told me an interesting incident in connection with Ole Bull and this concert hall. It occured soon after Ole Bull had left the colony to earn money for his people's maintainance. When he had played concerts in New York, Boston Philadelphia and other places, it was one day announced by a colonist who had just returned from an interview with Mr. Bull-bringing substantial eviden-ces of the latter's solicitude for his countrymen—that Ole Bull would, on a given date, return to Oleona, and he wished to meet all the colonists at the concert hall. It was to be a renewal of friendship, and as the power of Ole's of friendship, and as the power of Ole's fiddle to soothe was recognized nowhere more readily than among his country-men, a concert by the famous violinist was to be a part of the great day's program. The news of Ole Bull's con-templated return was scattered far and wide, and not only did the Norwegians prepare to give him welcome, but also the populace for twenty miles around. Mrs. Anderson says that on the morn-ing of the day upon which Ole was to appear among them fully 800 people had gathered at Oleona. Men, women and children came for miles and miles through the forest to hear the great fiddler and to listen to the words of cheer that he was expected to speak to his disheartened countrymen. But the

The assembled populace, at sundown, wended their way homeward. Two days later there came a letter into the post at Oleona, from Ole Buil. It was mark-

day wore away and Ole Bul did not

ed Wellsville, N. Y., and in it tile explained the fallure to keep his engagement. The day before the one upon
which he was to depart for Oleona his
fiddle had been attached at Wellsville
for an unpaid hotel bill. He had had no
money to redeam it, and without his
violin he knew his presence at Oleona
would be of little good, consequently he
conculded not to come. Ole Bull never conculded not to come. Ole Bull never visited the settlement after that. He visited the settlement after that. He continued Westward on his concert tour, subsequently marrying a beautiful woman in Wisconsin. Years afterward, through the mystic charms of his violin, fortune again smiled upon him, and it is said that when he died, in Norway, in 1880, he was again quite wealthy.

wealthy. Within a stone's throw of the old ditch are two of the quaint, flat-roofed log houses that were built by the colonists. The larger one of the two was an important factor in New Ber-

ed Wellsville, N. Y., and in it Ole ex- | gen's history. In it was kept the postoffice, and beneath its roof many a gathering of colonists was held. Here, too, Ole Bull and his fiddle have en-livened the populace, and the merry dance has been enjoyed. The other building was occupied by five families of Norwegian settlers, and judging from its abbreviated proportions one is led to believe that its occupants must have been packed like sardines in a

And thus was Ole Bull deposed from the exalted position of ideal, which he held two years before, to be embarrass-ed and humilated by the very men for whom he had sacrificed much. In another decade the old Norwegian log houses will have rotted down, the remaining walls of the "castle" on the hill will have been razed by the elements, and the story of Ole Bull's starving colony will be known only in history.-Philadelphia Times.

and announcement and announcement and THEY CUT OFF THEIR HEADS.

The steel trust wants vengeance, and it is going to fight. The McKeesport mills, employing 8,500 men, are to be absolutely destroyed. The city is to be ruined, the workmen guilty of organizing are to be permanently out of work.

Other mills in which the men have struck are to be wiped out by the trust. Other manufacturing towns are to be ruined absolutely. But the steel trust owners must re-member that somebody else may suffer

n the long run. In England, when the inhabitants of a village showed themselves disre-spectful to the lord who owned them, the village was pulled down. Very often the lord combined two kinds of pleasure by driving out the obnoxious inhabitants and transforming the whole territory into a deer forest. This happened in France as well as in England.

In France, as in England, they got hold of the principal gentleman who

The head that was cut off in France belonged to a poor, good-natured fool named Louis XVI.—neither his good nature nor his stupidity could save

The head cut off in England belonged to Charles, an arrogant ass, conceited beyond belief, almost fitted through egotism to manage a United States

He had divine right back of him, and plenty of preachers to preach that divine right, but that did not save

The common body of the people produced a man named Cromwell. When that man was born there was a certain royal head very shaky on its shoulders.
The common body of the people will produce its Cromwell in time

He will make national property of these trusts, as Cromwell, as Danton, made national property of the prop-erty which the kings thought was



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Time and human indignation are wonderful workers. They are more powerful and more persistent even than the trust owner who thinks there is nothing to arbitrate. Their turn will come, and the descendants of the present trust owners will find themselves ultimately possessed of nothing but a poor reputation with perhaps but a poor reputation, with perhaps hereditary oczema and megalomania added on.—New York Journal.

From Cooperville, Mich., comes word of a wonderful discovery of a pleasant tasting liquid that when used before retiring by any one troubled with a bad cough always ensures a good night's rest. "It will soon cure the cough teo," writes Mrs. S. Himelburger, "for three generations of our family have used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption and never found its equal for Coughs and Colds." It's an unrivaled life-saver when used for desperate lung diseases. Guaranteed bottles 50c, and \$1.00 at Z. C. M. L. Drug bottles 50c, and \$1.00 at Z. C. M. L. Drug Dept. Trial bottles free.

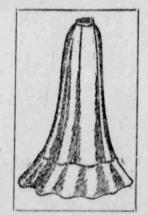
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